

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ROME 11723 261206Z

53

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 AID-20 CEA-02 COME-00

EB-11 FRB-02 CIEP-02 STR-08 TRSE-00 LAB-06 SIL-01

OMB-01 NSCE-00 SSO-00 DRC-01 /200 W

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R 261000Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1529

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 11723

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: PFOR US IT EEC

SUBJECT OUIP (STOESSEL, WALTER)

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: ASSISTANT SECRETARY STOESSEL, ACCOMPANIED BY
DCM AND EMBOFF, PAID CALL ON FOREIGN OFFICE UNDER-SECRETARY PEDINI
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PAGE 02 ROME 11723 261206Z

OCTOBER 25. PEDINI (CHRISTIAN DEMOCRAT) IS ONE OF THREE POLITICALLY-APPOINTED UNDER-SECRETARIES AND IS RANKING OFFICIAL AT FONOFF IN ABSENCE OF FOREIGN MINISTRY MORO AND SECRETARY GENERAL GAJA AWAY ON BENELUX TOUR WITH PRESIDENT LEONE. POLITICAL DIRECTOR GENERAL DUCCI ALSO SAT IN ON MEETING. MAJOR PORTION OF CONVERSATION WAS DEVOTED TO US-EUROPEAN DIALOGUE WITH WHICH DUCCI, BUT NOT PEDINI, FULLY CONVERSANT, END SUMMARY.

2. U.S.-EUROPEAN RELATIONS. PEDINI OPENED CONVERSATION WITH REFERENCE TO PARLIAMENTARY DEBATE OF PREVIOUS EVENING ON SUBJECT OF EUROPEAN UNITY AND RELATIONS WITH U.S. PEDINI SAID ITALIANS HOPE U.S. CAN ACCEPT UNIFIED EUROPEAN VOICE IN ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL MATTERS AND THAT TOGETHER WE CAN FIND COMMON POSITION FOR DEALING WITH MAJOR INTERNATIONAL QUESTIONS SUCH AS SEARCH FOR PEACEFUL SOLUTION IN MIDDLE EAST. STOESEL REPLIED THAT U.S. HAS CONSISTENTLY FAVORED EUROPEAN UNITY BUT WE HOPE THAT WE CAN STILL CONTINUE TO HAVE BILATERAL CONTACTS WITH THE NINE ESPECIALLY DURING STAGE OF POLICY FORMULATION RATHER THAN BE CONFRONTED WITH FINAL DECISIONS. STOESEL SAID THAT HIS MEETINGS WITH EC POLITICAL DIRECTORS HAD GOTTEN OFF TO GOOD START ALTHOUGH, UP TO PRESENT, ONLY POLITICAL ASPECTS OF DRAFT DECLARATION HAD BEEN CONSIDERED IN DETAIL. DUCCI NOTED THAT ECONOMIC ASPECTS OF DECLARATION WAS LARGELY MATTER FOR EC PERM REPS WHO, HE BELIEVED, WOULD BE DISCUSSING SUBJECT TODAY.

3. DUCCI THEN OBSERVED THAT, CONSIDERING PROGRESS ACHIEVED TO DATE, NEXT MEETING OF POLITICAL DIRECTORS WITH STOESEL MIGHT BE FINAL ONE. STOESEL AGREED THAT THIS WAS POSSIBLE BUT NOTED THAT DRAFT NEEDED GREATER SPECIFICITY AND WE WISHED TO REVIEW RESULTS OF COPENHAGEN MEETING. HE ADDED THAT WE WOULD HAVE PREFERRED ONE DECLARATION BUT CAN ACCEPT TWO PROVIDED NATO DECLARATION IS STRONG DOCUMENT AND EC DECLARATION IS GOOD STATEMENT CONCERNING TRANSATLANTIC RELATIONS IN LIGHT OF CHANGED CIRCUMSTANCES. GIVEN TWO DECLARATIONS OF THIS QUALITY, PRESIDENTIAL VISIT WOULD THEN ADD STRENGTH TO US-EUROPEAN RELATIONSHIP AND PROVIDE ASSURANCE TO PUBLIC. PEDINI NOTED THAT REVITALIZED TRANSATLANTIC RELATIONSHIP WOULD BE USEFUL FOR DEALING WITH THIRD WORLD AND SETTLEMENT OF MIDDLE EAST CONFLICT. AGREEING, DUCCI SUGGESTED THAT PERHAPS WORDING OF BOTH DECLARATIONS COULD BE IMPROVED TO REFLECT MORE CONCERN FOR THIRD WORLD.

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PAGE 03 ROME 11723 261206Z

4. TURNING TO QUESTION OF FRENCH POSITION, PEDINI NOTED THAT FRENCH POLICY IS CHANGING IN DIRECTION OF MORE COOPERATIVE ATTITUDE VIS-A-VIS THE U.S. DUCCI INTERJECTED THAT THIS TRUE BUT FRENCH REMAIN JEALOUS OF THEIR INDEPENDENCE. IN THIS CONNECTION DUCCI ASKED WHY, AS ITALIANS HAD HEARD, U.S. HAD MAINTAINED CLOSEST LIAISON WITH BRITISH DURING MID EAST CRISIS. STOESEL SAID HE

WAS UNINFORMED ON DETAILS OF CONSULTATION BUT NOTED THAT JOBERT HAD BEEN IN THE U.S. WHEN CRISIS ERUPTED AND HAD SEEN SECRETARY DURING THIS PERIOD. STOESEL AGREED THAT FRENCH POLICY EVOLVING IN POSITIVE DIRECTION AND THAT THEY HAD PRESENTED GOOD DRAFT DECLARATION IN NATO WHICH COULD BE BASIS OF STRONG ALLIANCE STATEMENT. HE NOTED THAT U.S. AND OTHERS WOULD WISH TO SEE SOME OTHER ELEMENTS ADDED TO FRENCH DRAFT IF POSSIBLE, SUCH AS BURDEN-SHARING, MBFR AND ECONOMIC ISSUES.

5. ON SUBJECT OF EUROPEAN UNITY, PEDINI EXPRESSED VIEWS THAT ITALIAN PUBLIC OPINION IS PREPARED FOR CHANGED RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN US AND EUROPE. FOR THE FUTURE, PEDINI IMAGINED THAT U.S. WOULD BE MORE ACTIVE IN MILITARY AREA WHILE EUROPE WOULD BE MORE INVOLVED IN SOCIAL ASPECTS. NEVERTHELESS, AT END OF PROCESS OF EUROPEAN UNIFICATION THE QUESTION OF EUROPEAN DEFENSE (INCLUDING A NUCLEAR FORCE) WOULD INEVITABLY COME TO THE FORE. STOESEL ASKED WHETHER BUILDING OF EUROPEAN DEFENSE WOULD NOT PRESUPPOSE A UNITED EUROPEAN GOVERNMENT AND PEDINI INDICATED AGREEMENT. ON QUESTION OF EUROPEAN DETENTE, DUCCI NOTED THAT HE HAD TOLD HIS EC COLLEAGUES FOLLOWING COPENHAGEN MEETING WITH U.S. THAT NINE SHOULD NOT DEFINE IDENTITY EXCLUSIVELY IN TERMS OF RELATIONS WITH U.S. BUT SHOULD LOOK TO OTHER AREAS (E.G. USSR) AS WELL. HE SAID THAT HIS PROPOSAL WOULD BE DISCUSSED FURTHER AT LATER DATE. ON EC IDENTITY DOCUMENT ITSELF, DUCCI INDICATED HIS BELIEF THAT IT WOULD NOT BE COMPLETED BEFORE END OF YEAR.

6. RESPONDING TO QUESTION ABOUT TIMING OF PRESIDENTIAL VISIT, STOESEL SAID IT WOULD DEPEND ON NUMBER OF FACTORS INCLUDING SUBSTANCE OF WORK DONE ON DECLARATIONS, SIGNING ARRANGEMENTS AND WORLD EVENTS. HE SAID IT IS POSSIBLE PRESIDENT COULD COME IN NOVEMBER BUT OTHERWISE THE VISIT WOULD PROBABLY TAKE PLACE EARLY NEXT YEAR. ASSISTANT SECRETARY ADDED THAT WE ARE NOT PRESSING FOR VISIT AND BELIEVE IT MUST SERVE USEFUL SUBSTANTIVE

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 ROME 11723 261206Z

PURPOSE.

7. IN BRIEF REFERENCE TO MIDDLE EAST, DUCCI EXPRESSED VIEW THAT INITIAL RESULTS OF WAR HAD GIVEN POSITIVE BOOST TO ARAB PSYCHOLOGY BUT RECENT EVENTS HAD DELIVERED NEW BLOW TO THEIR SENSE OF SECURITY. IN HIS VIEW, HAD CEASE FIRE OCCURRED THREE DAYS EARLIER, POSSIBILITIES FOR PEACFUL SETTLEMENT WOULD HAVE BEEN ENHANCED. VOLPE

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